Land rights for tribals

289. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tribals in many States, especially in Andhra Pradesh, were under target after they filed their claims for land rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof, especially in Andhra Pradesh, during the last four years; and

(c) what steps Government would take to protect the interests of the tribals in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has no information from any State, including Andhra Pradesh, of tribals being under target after they filed their claims for land rights.

(c) Both the Central and State Government have enacted laws and set up institutions for protecting the land rights of tribals in every State. The operation of such laws is frequently monitored.

Functioning of social welfare hostels

290. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the social welfare hostels are being set up, to provide education to the tribal students;

(b) if so, whether any mechanism has been put in place, to effectively monitor the functioning of the officials running these hostels; and

(c) if so, how far it is helpful in providing nutritious diet and quality education to tribal children and also in protecting the boys and girls from exploitation in the tribal districts of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON): (a) to (c) The Government of India in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs does not set up social welfare hostels. It only supports States/UTs in constructing hostels for ST boys and girls at the middle, secondary, college and university level of education. The running and maintenance including, monitoring thereof, of these hostels is the responsibility of the concerned State Government/UT Administration. Officers of the Ministry from time to time, inspect the projects sanctioned by the Ministry.

Implementation of Forest Rights Law

291. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementing the Forest Rights Law, State-wise;

(b) the names of the States providing benefits to tribals and forest dwellers, in detail; and